

# MISCELLANY

Under this department are ordinarily grouped: News; Medical Economics; Correspondence; Twenty-five Years Ago column; Department of Public Health; California Board of Medical Examiners; and other columns as occasion may warrant. Items for the News column must be furnished by the fifteenth of the preceding month. For Book Reviews, see index on the front cover, under Miscellany.

## NEWS

### Coming Meetings

*American Medical Association*, Cleveland, Ohio, June 11 to 15, 1934. Olin West, M. D., Secretary, 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois.

*Annual Congress on Medical Education and Licensure*, Chicago, Illinois, February 12 and 13. W. D. Cutter, M. D., Secretary, 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago.

*California Medical Association*, Riverside, April 30 to May 3, 1934. Emma W. Pope, M. D., Secretary, 2004 Four Fifty Sutter, San Francisco.

*California-Nevada Section of American College of Surgeons*, Los Angeles, March 12 and 13, 1934.

*Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons*, Boston, October 15 to 19, 1934. Franklin H. Martin, M. D., Director General, 40 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois.

### Medical Broadcasts\*

*American Medical Association Health Talks*.—The American Medical Association broadcasts each Monday afternoon from 5 to 5:15 p. m., eastern standard time (4 p. m., central standard time), over the network of the National Broadcasting Company.

The American Medical Association broadcasts on Tuesday and Thursday morning from 8:55 to 9 a. m., central standard time, over Station WBBM (770 kilocycles, or 389.4 meters).

There is also a fifteen-minute talk, sponsored by the Association, on Saturday mornings from 9:45 to 10 o'clock, central standard time, over Station WBBM.

*San Francisco County Medical Society*.—The San Francisco County Medical Society broadcast program for the month of February is as follows:

Tuesday, February 6—KJBS, 11:15 a. m., and KFRC, 1:35 p. m. Subject: Focal Infection.

Tuesday, February 13—KJBS, 11:15 a. m., and KFRC, 1:35 p. m. Subject: Colds and Their Complications.

Tuesday, February 20—KJBS, 11:15 a. m., and KFRC, 1:35 p. m. Subject: Pneumonia.

Tuesday, February 27—KJBS, 11:15 a. m., and KFRC, 1:35 p. m. Subject: Communicable Diseases.

*Los Angeles County Medical Association*.—The radio broadcast program for the Los Angeles County Medical Association for the month of February is as follows:

Thursday, February 1—KFAC, 9:15 a. m. Subject: Your Doctor and You.

Saturday, February 3—KFI, 9:15 a. m. Subject: Health Talk.

Tuesday, February 6—KECA, 11:15 a. m. Subject: Health Talk.

Thursday, February 8—KFAC, 9:15 a. m. Subject: Your Doctor and You.

Saturday, February 10—KFI, 9:15 a. m. Subject: Health Talk.

Tuesday, February 13—KECA, 11:15 a. m. Subject: Health Talk.

Thursday, February 15—KFAC, 9:15 a. m. Subject: Your Doctor and You.

Saturday, February 17—KFI, 9:15 a. m. Subject: Health Talk.

\* County societies giving medical broadcasts are requested to send information as soon as arranged (giving station, day, date and hour, and subject) to CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, 450 Sutter Street, San Francisco, for inclusion in this column.

Tuesday, February 20—KECA, 11:15 a. m. Subject: Health Talk.

Thursday, February 22—KFAC, 9:15 a. m. Subject: Your Doctor and You.

Saturday, February 24—KFI, 9:15 a. m. Subject: Health Talk.

Tuesday, February 27—KECA, 11:15 a. m. Subject: Health Talk.

**Nineteen Thirty-Four State Elections.**—In the public press it is stated that a primary election will be held in California on August 28 and that the final election for state officers will be held on November 6. This year one United States Senator, the Governor, and an entire state ticket will be voted upon. In local districts a goodly number of county and local officers will come up for election. Registration of voters, under the permanent registration law, is in progress in California throughout the year except for thirty-nine days preceding any particular election, when it shall cease for that particular election. Therefore all voters should be sure that they are registered at least forty days prior to any election if they desire to vote.

**American College of Surgeons—Meeting in Los Angeles on March 13-14, 1934.**—A cordial invitation is extended to the medical profession of California, Nevada, and Arizona by the president and Board of Regents of the American College of Surgeons, the California State Executive Committee, and the Los Angeles Committee on Local Arrangements to attend the California-Nevada-Arizona sectional meeting of the college at Los Angeles on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 13 and 14, 1934. An excellent two-day program is being prepared, consisting of well-arranged clinics in general surgery, and eye, ear, nose and throat surgery at the local hospitals; clinical addresses and scientific sessions in which a number of distinguished leaders in surgery will participate, and a hospital conference for the discussion of medico-administrative and other problems of interest to the medical profession, hospital administrators, trustees, and others. The sessions will be brought to a close by a large community health meeting, at which the visiting speakers will talk to the people of the community on important health and hospital topics in the interests of scientific medicine.

This meeting will be of scientific value to every physician, as well as affording an opportunity of becoming more familiar with the Hospital Standardization Movement which has done so much for the practice of medicine in all its branches, and which should be furthered to the fullest extent. Hospital problems are now of greater interest to the medical profession than ever before.

The Los Angeles Committee on Local Arrangements is leaving nothing undone to make this a most successful meeting. A large attendance and a good program are assured. Further information pertaining to this meeting can be obtained by addressing Dr. Clarence G. Toland, 1930 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, chairman, or Dr. C. Hiram Weaver, 1709 West Eighth Street, Los Angeles, secretary of the Committee on Local Arrangements.

**New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital.** The new physical therapy department of the New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital was opened on Monday, December 11, 1933. Many prominent physicians and surgeons as well as other guests were present. This department is located in the new clinic building of the Polyclinic Hospital, and is under the supervision of Dr. Richard Kovacs.

**Food and Drug Bill.**—An Associated Press dispatch dated January 18, gives the following information:

Senator Royal Copeland, Democrat of New York, called a meeting of the senate commerce subcommittee for late in the afternoon, with a view to having his redrafted bill to regulate the sale of foods, drugs and cosmetics substituted for the original measure which drew widespread opposition.

Despite the revisions which Senator Copeland said were designed to meet objections to the provisions giving broad powers to the secretary of agriculture and the advertising penalty section, leaders said a stormy journey faces the measure in both the committee and the senate.

Rexford G. Tugwell, assistant secretary of agriculture, who framed the original bill, has expressed disappointment at the changes made by Senator Copeland.

**Mid-Winter Clinical Course—Eye, Ear, Nose, and Throat.**—The third mid-winter clinical course in ophthalmology and otolaryngology commenced in Los Angeles on January 15 and continued through January 26.

The guest lecturers were the following: Professor Anton Elschnig of the German University Eye Clinic at Prague, Czechoslovakia; Dr. Hans Knopf, Marienbad, Czechoslovakia; John F. Barnhill, M. D., University of Indiana; Edward C. Sewall, M. D., Stanford University Medical School, San Francisco; Hans Barkan, M. D., Stanford University Medical School, San Francisco; Harry L. Baum, M. D., Denver, Colorado; Vern O. Knudsen, Ph. D., University of California at Los Angeles; Ernest M. Hall, M. D., School of Medicine, University of Southern California.

In addition to the cadaver work given in the School of Medicine of the University of Southern California, clinics in eye, ear, nose and throat were held at the Los Angeles County General Hospital through the courtesy of the attending staffs on those services.

**Southeastern Surgical Congress.**—The Southeastern Surgical Congress will hold its fifth annual assembly in Nashville, Tennessee, March 5, 6, and 7. The Andrew Jackson Hotel will be hotel headquarters and the lectures and exhibits will be in the War Memorial Building. The following doctors will occupy places on the program: Fred H. Albee, New York; W. Wayne Babcock, Philadelphia; S. O. Black, Spartanburg; Vilray P. Blair, St. Louis; Frank K. Boland, Atlanta; J. B. Brown, St. Louis; D. B. Cobb, Goldsboro, N. C.; George W. Crile, Cleveland; T. C. Davison, Atlanta; John F. Erdmann, New York; P. G. Flothow, Seattle; Seale Harris, Birmingham; M. S. Henderson, Rochester, Minn.; Arthur E. Hertzler, Halstead, Kansas; Chevalier Jackson, Philadelphia; Walter C. Jones, Miami; Dean Lewis, Baltimore; Joseph F. McCarthy, New York; C. Jeff Miller, New Orleans; A. J. Mooney, Statesboro, Ga.; John J. Moorhead, New York; Edward T. Newell, Chattanooga; Fred Rankin, Lexington, Ky.; Paul H. Ringer, Asheville; Stewart Roberts, Atlanta; George H. Semken, New York; Phil C. Schreier, Memphis; Arthur M. Shipley, Baltimore; H. E. Simon, Birmingham; A. O. Singleton, Galveston; J. R. Young, Anderson, S. C.; Waitman F. Zinn, Baltimore.

For information write Dr. B. T. Beasley, 1019 Doctors Building, Atlanta.

**American Public Health Association.**—The American Public Health Association announces that its sixty-third annual meeting will be held in Pasadena, September 3-6, 1934. The Western Branch of the American Public Health Association, with a membership of more than 1,200 from eleven western states, will hold its fifth annual meeting at the same time.

Dr. J. D. Dunshee, health officer of Pasadena, has been appointed chairman of the local Committee on Arrangements. He will be assisted by Dr. John L. Pomeroy, president, and Dr. W. P. Shepard, secretary of the western branch, and other prominent public health authorities on the west coast.

**Microscopic Pathology and X-Ray Conferences at Riverside.**—In order to make it possible for members to attend both the Microscopic Pathology and the X-Ray Conferences at Riverside on Sunday, April 29, 1934, the Pathology Conference will be held from 10 a. m. to 3 p. m., and the X-Ray Conference from 3 to 5 and from 8 to 10 p. m.

On account of space limitations it will be necessary to limit the number in attendance to forty at each conference. Reservations may be made through the office of the Cancer Commission, 450 Sutter Street, San Francisco.

Announcements of program and committees in charge will appear in the next number of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE.

**Federal Relief Aid.**—A total of more than \$36,700,000 was spent for unemployment relief in California during the calendar year 1933, according to a preliminary report made by the California State Emergency Relief Commission at a week-end meeting in the State Building.

Archbishop Edward J. Hanna is chairman of the Commission, a nonpartisan, nonsectarian, nonsalaried body, appointed by the Governor.

The monthly average of California families aided was 119,000, representing 504,600 persons.

Of the total amount spent, \$9,800,000 was Reconstruction Finance Corporation loans to counties, \$7,900,000 was in grants from the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, \$5,200,000 was spent by counties from loans they had obtained from state unemployment relief bond issue, and \$13,800,000 came from various county funds.

Federal relief moneys were distributed to forty-five of the fifty-eight counties, while twenty-one counties received funds from the state bond issue. As an operating principle it was agreed that federal, state, and county governments should each contribute one-third. —San Francisco *Examiner*, January 21.

**Floating Congress of Pan-American Medical Association, March 14 to 30, 1934.**

President: Dr. John O. McReynolds, Dallas, Tex. Secretaries: Dr. Joseph J. Eller, 745 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.; Dr. J. E. Lopez, Silvero, Cuba.

The Pan-American Medical Association announces that the plans for the Fifth Scientific Congress are well under way. This will be held in the form of a sixteen-day cruise to Cuba, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela and Puerto Rico, sailing from New York on March 14, 1934, and returning on March 30, 1934. The steamship *Pennsylvania*, a beautiful modern ocean liner of 32,000 tons displacement, has been specially chartered for the Association. The steamship *Pennsylvania* caters to every whim and desire of the most exacting traveler and is an ideal choice of ship for the Floating Congress.

The Governors of the Fifth Congress are as follows: Chevalier Jackson, Governor of North American Activities.

Hugh Young, English-speaking Governor for Havana.

J. A. Presno, Spanish-speaking Governor for Havana.

José G. Lewis, English-speaking Governor for Panama.

Charles Mayo, Governor of Floating Section.

J. J. Vallarino, Spanish-speaking Governor for Panama.

Lewellys Barker, English-speaking Governor for Caracas.

Harlow Brooks, English-speaking Governor for Cartagena.

Daniel Brigard, Spanish-speaking Governor for Cartagena.

Miguel R. Ruiz, Spanish-speaking Governor for Caracas.

George W. Bachman, Spanish-speaking Governor for San Juan.

Damasco de Rivas, English-speaking Governor for San Juan.

The congresses of the Association which were held in Havana in 1929, Panama City in 1930, Mexico, D. F., in 1932, and in Dallas in 1933, did much to cement friendly relations and to stimulate the interchange of medical science among the various countries in the Western Hemisphere—an aim of the Association which will again be furthered by this cruise.

The decision to make the Fifth Congress of the Association a Floating Congress is a most happy one, for it gives the members and guests of our Association an opportunity of visiting several Latin American countries and of acquainting themselves with each other's medical problems. This trip, furthermore, will be an expression of our friendship and good will towards our Latin-American neighbors.

#### ITINERARY

##### S. S. PENNSYLVANIA—SIXTEEN DAYS

Port	Arrival	Departure
New York .....		Mar. 14—12:00 noon
Havana .....	Mar. 17—10:00 a. m.	Mar. 17—10:00 p. m.
Colon .....	Mar. 20—10:00 a. m.	Mar. 20—8:00 p. m.
Cartagena .....	Mar. 21—12:00 noon	Mar. 21—5:00 p. m.
Puerto Cabello .....	Mar. 23—6:00 a. m.	Mar. 23—5:00 p. m.
La Guaira .....	Mar. 24—6:00 a. m.	Mar. 24—5:00 p. m.
San Juan .....	Mar. 26—6:00 a. m.	Mar. 26—5:00 p. m.
New York .....	Mar. 30—8:00 a. m.	

Rates—\$185 and up

At various ports of call there will be receptions arranged by the local doctors. It has been decided that out of sentiment and respect for the great South American patriot and leader, Bolivar, the Congress disembark at Santa Marta, Colombia, the birthplace of Simon Bolivar. In Venezuela the government will defray all expenses of the members, wives and families while on Venezuelan soil and this includes sight-seeing, automobiles, hotels, etc. In Venezuela our entire party will motor from Puerto Cabello to Maracay, where a luncheon reception will be given in honor of the Congress by President Gomez. After luncheon there will be a two-hour session of scientific papers at which certain North American physicians will participate. That evening there will be a grand ball and banquet and the entire party will stay overnight in Maracay. At San Juan, Puerto Rico, the Association will be the guests of the Columbia University School for Tropical Medicine.

The scientific program will consist of twenty-four papers to be read in each medical section specialty or six addresses daily for four days. This will be done during the voyage from Havana to Caracas. There also will be a scientific congress of one day in Venezuela.

The Pan-American Medical Association invites members of the medical profession in good standing to join this delightful cruise with their wives and families. Physicians joining the cruise may also invite a limited number of non-medical friends.

Aside from the scientific program, there will be special features of entertainment, such as bridge tournaments, deck sports, swimming in the two outdoor pools, talking pictures, dancing, concerts, costume balls, etc., so that everyone should be assured of having a delightful time.

Participating doctors from the West Coast can leave the *Pennsylvania* at La Guaira and make direct connections back via Colon, the Panama Canal and the western coast, visiting various ports in Central America, returning to San Francisco April 10 or 14.

The American Express Company has been appointed the official agent for the convention cruise, and will handle all reservations, subject to the approval of the Association. Any physician interested in attending this Congress can secure additional information by communicating with Dr. Charles P. Mathé, vice-president of the Association, 450 Sutter Street, San Francisco.

**Erratum.**—In the article on "Ruptured Ventral Hernia" by H. M. Ginsburg, as printed on page 49 of the January CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, the word "centigrade" was used instead of "Fahrenheit."

## CORRESPONDENCE

**Subject of following letter: A presentation of some of the medical phases of the California Workmen's Compensation Act.**

*To the Editor:*—Enclosed please find manuscript recently furnished the Los Angeles County Medical Society for the Society's "Bulletin." It occurs to me that it might be of interest to the readers of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE. If in your opinion it gives desirable information to the profession on the subject-matter, kindly give it space in one of your columns.

Fraternally yours,

JOHN H. GRAVES, M. D.,  
Medical Director.

"Apparently very few members of our profession understand the purposes and method of operation of the Workmen's Compensation Laws. When the Act was before the Legislature in 1913, it would have been an easy matter for the medical profession to have secured any reasonable arrangement for distribution of this work and payment for services rendered. I still recall vividly my futile efforts to interest the then leaders of the profession in any way in procuring provisions that would be satisfactory to the profession.

"The law, as proposed and as adopted, disregarded certain phases of accepted medical ethics. For instance, the patient's doctor could be selected by the insurance carrier, and if the patient had already selected his own doctor, the insurance carrier could and often had replaced the patient's doctor with one of its own choosing. This is done on the theory that as the insurance carrier is compelled to pay for the medical service, the carrier should exercise the right of selection.

"Of course, the law was intended primarily to protect employees from financial loss due to injury received in the course of their employment. It soon was construed to indemnify them also against injury to their health and consequent loss of employment due to diseases which arose as a result of that employment, or exacerbation of preëxisting disease due to their occupation. Accordingly a commission was created, the members of which were appointed by the Governor to serve for varying lengths of time. It became the duty of the Commission, on which no graduate of medicine has ever served, to pass upon highly controversial and technical problems such as correctness of diagnosis, nature and extent of disability, reasonableness of medical and surgical fees charged for service rendered, and innumerable other problems which required medical education and experience to understand. Consequently, the Commission created a medical department consisting of a medical director and assistant medical directors to whom they could turn for consultation and advice in such matters.

"Now separate and quite distinct from these activities there was, under the law, provision made for the establishment of the State Compensation Insurance Fund. To all intents and purposes this fund is a big casualty insurance company operated and controlled by the State of California instead of by private interests, and is in direct business competition with all insurance companies writing casualty insurance in California. This state insurance company, known as the 'Fund,' is organized much along the same lines that any similar insurance company is organized; that is, it has a business manager, a legal department, a medical department, and various other departments similar to those of other insurance companies. An insurance company (and the State Compensation Fund is one of such) insures employers against financial loss for injuries which may result to their employees in the course of their employment. This necessitates furnishing not only indemnity for disability, loss of wages due to injury, and death benefits in case of death, but medical and surgical service and hospitalization.